

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being or has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: Adults and Health	Service area: Working Age Commissioning
Lead person: Iris Berkeley	Contact number: 0113 3783840

1. Title: Request Authority to Procure a Leeds Sensory Impairment Support Service and approval to use the 6-month extension option.

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy
 Service / Function
 Other

If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The report requests authority to procure a Leeds based Sensory Support Service for Adults and young people in transition from Childrens services aged 16+. The service is currently commissioned by Adults and Health and provides specialist information and advice; equipment assessment and provision; statutory adult social care assessment support planning and review as well as social groups, volunteer, and partnership arrangements.

A contract for five years with an option to extend for up to a further 36 months (to be taken in any combination) at a total maximum cost of £6,587,200 (£823,400 per annum) will be awarded to the successful provider.

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies and policies, service and functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater or lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?	x	
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		X
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment • Advancing equality of opportunity • Fostering good relations 	x	

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?**

(think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)

- A service review and service user consultation were undertaken during 21/22, The service review found the current provider had successfully achieved the service outputs and outcomes as described in the service specification.
- The review identified recommendations to improve service provision and also formed the basis of the new service model in the procurement exercise.
- Adults and Health engaged with over 160 people hearing impaired, sight impaired, severely sight impaired or who have dual sensory loss service users and 19 stakeholders during the first/second quarter of 2021 and during February – May 2022 inform and shape future service provision.
- Consultation feedback was overwhelmingly positive. A number of initiatives targeting sensory impaired working age and interventions to enhance service users confidence and independence; to enable choice and control over their lives were highlighted.
- The revised model is compliance with statutory and legal requirements as set out in the Care Act 2014, together with a range of regulations and statutory guidance, ie ADASS position statement on vision impairment and personalisation, equipment provision for people with sensory impairment, registering people with sensory impairment on behalf of the Local Authority etc.

- **Key findings**

(think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)

- **Actions**

(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

The Authority to Procure report and approval of the 6 month extension will have the following actions:

- Enable the mobilisation
- deliver on a city-wide basis so will impact all wards.
- offer specialist information advice and guidance tailored to the needs of people

with sensory impairment through partnership with audiology and eye clinics

- encourage early action to prevent and delay the need for statutory services.
- undertake assessments and provide appropriate specialist equipment including minor aids and adaptations.
- undertake statutory responsibilities of the Council in assessing the needs of people who are deaf, deafened hard of hearing, blind and partially sighted. The service includes developing appropriate support plans, carrying out reviews, providing packages of care and co working with the Council for financial assessment.
- facilitate social groups and partner arrangements with third sector and community assets.
- embed social value practices to identify and measure additional outcomes to be delivered.
- The service makes significant contributions to a range of City Priority Plans, but particularly the Health and Wellbeing Plan and its priority to make Leeds the best City for Health and Wellbeing by 2030. This will be achieved through supporting clients to make healthy lifestyle choices and to live safely. The proposal in this report directly contributes to the Best Council Plan's overarching vision of tackling poverty and reducing inequalities.

5. If you are *not* already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you *will need to carry out an impact assessment*.

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
I Berkeley	Commissioning Manager	14/8722
Date screening completed		

7. Publishing

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions** or a Key **Decision**.

A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
- The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.
- A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk for record.

Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:

For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to Governance Services	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:14/7/22
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: